(f) whether the location survey has been taken up along the National Highway No. 44 known as Assam-Agartala Road (Life Line) or from Kumarghat to Kamalpur, Khowai, Agartala route; and

(g) by when the actual construction works of the Railway is likely to begin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The final location survey for extending the Railway line from Kumarghat to Agartala has been taken up and is expected to be completed during 1993-94. The cumulative progress upto June, 1993 is 80%.

(f) The location survey has been taken up along the National Highway No. 44.

(g) Further consideration of the project will depend on results of the survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

Gauge conversion of Rajkot-Veraval N. G. line

4109. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have included Rajkot-Veraval gauge conversion in their action plan for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the likely period in which the work will be taken up and completed;

(c) whether extension of this line upto Kodinar is also included in this Plan;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) within what period the gauge conversion work of Rajkot-Veraval NG line would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By 1996-97, subject to availability of resources.

(c) and (d) An 18.46 Km. long industrial siding from near Veraval to a focal point has been recommended from where respective industries can get industrial sidings constructed to their work sites on 'Deposit' terms.

(e) By 1996-97, subject to availability of resources.

दिल्ली राजहरा-गऊघाट-जगदलपुर के लिए नई रेल लाइन का निर्माण

4110. श्री लक्ष्मी राम अग्रवाल : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपने भोपाल के दौरे के दौरान 26 जून, 93 को एक आम सभा में यह घोषणा की थी कि दिल्ली राजहरा-गऊघाट-जगदलपुर के लिए नई रेलवे लाइन के निर्माण संबंधी प्रस्ताव को अति-शीघ्र स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी जायेगी;

(ख) क्या उक्त रेल लाइन के निर्माण संबंधी प्रस्ताव भारत सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उक्त रेल लाइन को कब तक वित्तीय/प्रशासकीय स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी जायेगी ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रस्तावित दिल्ली राजहरा-जगदलपुर 235 कि० मी० लम्बी नई लाइन के निर्माण पर 370 करोड़ रुपये की लागत आने का अनुमान है । रेल परियोजनाओं के लिए घटते हुए बजटीय समर्थन को देखते हुए रेलें अपने सीमित आबंटनों में से इस परियोजना के लिए धन नहीं जुटा पाएंगी ।

इस परियोजना के लिए मध्य प्रदेश सरकार, इस्पात और रेल मंत्रालय द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से धन जुटाने का एक प्रस्ताव है । परियोजना के लिए धन जुटाने संबंधी सहमति हो जाने पर वित्तीय एवं प्रशासनिक अनुमोदन संबंधी प्रक्रिया आरंभ की जाएगी ।

रेलवे में पदोन्नतियों में आरक्षण

4111. श्री सदभवेव आनन्द पासवान : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि एन० ई० आर० ए० किन कारणों से रेल बोर्ड द्वारा जारी किए गए सामान्य वरीयता तथा योग्यता अनुसार वरीयता संबंधी आदेश की अनदेखी कर रहा है और पदोन्नतियों में आरक्षण संबंधी नियमों की अवहेलना कर रहा है जैसे कि रेलवे की अन्य श्रेणियों के साथ-साथ गार्ड की श्रेणी से सम्बन्धित मामलों में किया गया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका) : पटना और इलाहाबाद स्थित केन्द्रीय प्रशासनिक अधिकरणों की खंडपीठों के आदेशों के कारण सोनपुर और लखनऊ मंडलों में गार्ड की कोटि को छोड़कर पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में पदोन्नति के मामले में सभी कोटियों में वरिष्ठता नियमों का अनुपालन किया जा रहा है । इन आदेशों के विरूध्द उच्चतम न्यायालय में विशेष अनुमति याचिकाएं दायर की गई हैं ।

Suspension of Train Service in Jammu and Pathankot

4112. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to some irate armymen including a Captain rail services on the 30th July, 1993 in Jammu and Pathankot sections of the Northern Railways were suspended causing hardships to the passengers; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 30-7-93 at about 14.35 hrs. an army officer of 49 Regiment Light Infantry, a passenger of Gorakhpur Express approached on duty Assistant Station Master, Jammu Tawi for luggage trolly. The Assistant Station Master informed him that the trollies were available downstairs. There was some altercation between them. The army officer used foul language. Meanwhile about 40-50 military personnel available at the platform gathered at the spot. The Army personnel went on rampage and caused extensive damage to railway properties. They pelted stones at Railway employees who gathered there, injuring four of them. On receipt of the information Senior Railway, Military, Civil and Police Officials reached the site and brought the situation under control.

The army officer was handed over to Core of Military Police. Meanwhile, the Railway staff went on strike which was called off at 21.10 hrs. The Government Railway Police, Jammu Tawi registered a case u/s 332, 452, 147, 148 and 427 IPC vide FIR No. 7/93. The army authorities have also deployed six personnel from the Core of Military Police each in three shifts at Jammu Tawi Station from 1-8-93.

Losses suffered by Railways

4113. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have suffered a revenue loss of crores of rupees in the first quarter of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the estimated revenue loss suffered by the Railways;

(c) the areas in which the loss has been suffered stating the reasons; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) There has been a shortfall of Rs. 232.13 crores as compared to the target.

(c) and (d) The shortfall in revenue earnings mainly pertains to Goods traffic and is attributable to less offerings of traffic from the core sectors. Aggressive marketing strategies, tri-partite discussions with important users of transport and their coordination with concerned Ministries are being resorted to for improving the position.

Facility of Pantry Car in Mangala Express Train

4114. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that a new train 2617/2618 Mangala Express from Hazrat Nizamuddin to Mangalore has recently been introduced.

(b) whether it is also a fact that this train which takes about 54 hours to reach Mangalore has no facility of Pantry Car which is a minimum facility required for the convenience of Passengers in such long distance trains;

(c) if so, by when Government propose to operate a Pantry Car in this train; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (d) 2617/2618 Mangala Express has been introduced from 1-7-93 between Hazrat Nizamuddin and Mangalore. While it is planned to provide a Pantry Car on this service, the same has not been found feasible for the present due to acute shortage of Pantry Cars. In the meanwhile the catering requirements of the passengers are suitably met from the static catering units enroute.

Wages Escalation claim of CMS Crossings

4115. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry has withdrawn the letter in respect of wages escalation claim in respect of C. S. crossings written to Ministry of Finance, cost account branch;

(b) who was responsible for writing this letter and what action has been taken against him;

(c) what are the details of the report of the